

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the amendments above and the remarks following is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-102 are in this case. Claims 40-88 and 94-102 have been withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Claims 1-39 and 89-93 have been examined on the merits, in their generic form. Claim 17 has been rejected under 35 USC § 112 second paragraph. Claims 1-36 and 89-93 were rejected under 35 USC § 112 first paragraph.

Claims 1-9, 19 and 89 have now been canceled. Claim 17 has now been amended.

35 U.S.C. § 112 second paragraph rejection

The Examiner has rejected claim 17 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 19 has now been canceled. Claim 17 has now been amended.

Specifically, the Examiner has stated that claim 17 is vague and indefinite because the metes and bounds of for the term "derivatives thereof" are unclear. The Examiner has further stated that this term can encompass a large number of possible compounds in organic chemistry.

Applicant believes that by stating the term "derivatives thereof" with regard to a polyether, in the context of the present invention, namely as a polymeric backbone of the compound described in claim 10, a skilled artisan could readily identify various derivatives of a polyether, which would maintain the characteristics of a polyether in this respect and could thus be encompassed by the claimed invention.

However, Applicant has chosen, in order to expedite prosecution, to amend claim 17 to more clearly define the claimed subject matter, and particularly, to more clearly define the term "derivatives thereof". Specifically, claim 17 has now been amended to recite "[t]he compound of claim 10,

wherein said Q backbone comprises a polyether and/or a polyether derivative, said polyether derivative being selected from the group consisting of poly(ether-thioether), poly(ether-sulfone) and poly(ether-sulfoxide).

Claim 19, which included the limitations now added to claim 17, has been canceled.

Applicant believes to have overcome the Examiner's rejection in this respect.

35 U.S.C. § 112 first paragraph rejection

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-39 and 89-93 under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, as failing to reasonably provide enablement for compounds as broadly claimed in instant claim 1. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 1-9 and 89 have now been canceled.

Specifically, the Examiner has stated that the specification does not provide any guidance as to how one of ordinary skill in the art will select a specific compound from the ones broadly claimed in instant claim 1.

Applicant wishes to direct the Examiner's attention in this respect to the specification of the instant application (see, for example, from page 29 line 21 to page 30 line 20, and pages 31-33), where the characteristics of the backbone and chemical functionality groups of the compounds of the present invention are detailed, thus enabling one of ordinary skill in the art to select specific compounds which are suitable according to the embodiments of the present invention, by following the guidelines there described.

Notwithstanding the above, and in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has chosen to limit the claimed invention, so as to include compounds which are described and exemplified in detail in the specification of the instant application. Specifically, Applicant has chosen to limit the claimed invention to those compounds having the general formula provided in claim 10.

Ample support, enablement and working examples demonstrating the preparation of such compounds and their activity are provided, for example, in pages 71-87 of the instant application.

Thus, independent claims 1 and 89, as well as claims 2-9 have now been canceled.

Applicant therefore believes to have overcome the Examiner's rejection in this respect.

In view of the above amendments and remarks it is respectfully submitted that claims 10-16, amended claim 17 and claims 18-39 and 90-93 are now in condition for allowance. Prompt notice of allowance is respectfully and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 25, 2005

Encl.:

One-month extension of time;

Formal Drawings (33 sheets)

In the Drawings:

33 sheets of formal drawings are attached herewith under separate cover.